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Thomas A. Runk, Reg. No. 30,679 Date

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application Of:)
••) Group Art Unit: 3763
Farley, et al.)
Serial No.: 09/483,969) Examiner: C. Rodriguez)
Filed: January 18, 2000) Our Docket No. VNUS-53427
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR VENOUS INSUFFICIENCY USING DIRECTIONALLY APPLIED ENERGY))) Date: October 12, 2001
)

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Box Response No Fee Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office action dated September 12, 2001. The Office action required an election of a single species from species A through species G for examination.

Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, species D which is defined in the Office action as being illustrated by Figures 11 through 15. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 34, 36,

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38-43, 48-53, 55, 60, 61, 65-68, 72-74, and 77-82 are all readable on species D. Applicant respectfully submits that at least independent claims 34 and 53 are generic.

Applicant respectfully submits that the specification of the present application discloses commonality of operation, function, and effect between species D and E, which are illustrated in FIGS. 11 through 13, and FIG. 19, respectively. For example, the specification at page 22, lines 32-33, states that the embodiment catheter shown in FIG. 19 is similar to that shown in FIGS. 11, 12, and 13. Both embodiments include electrodes which are bowed outwardly. Applicant respectfully submits that there is commonality of operation, function, and effect between at least species D and E, as defined by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that it would not impose a serious burden on the Examiner to examine the species illustrated by FIGS. 11 through 15, and 19.

Applicant respectfully requests favorable examination of the claims. If the Examiner has any comments or questions regarding any of the foregoing, kindly telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

Ву

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